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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/542,383	07/14/2005	Kensuke Ogawa	Q88674	3458
23373	7590	02/09/2007	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			ROJAS, OMAR R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2874	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	02/09/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/542,383	OGAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner Omar Rojas	Art Unit 2874	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-23 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 07/14/2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/14/2005.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: Detailed Action.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

- Group I, claim(s) 1-10, drawn to a dispersion compensation element comprising dispersion varying means which is different in carrier density from the waveguide.
- Group II, claim(s) 11-18, drawn to an optical crystal characterized in that said optical crystal comprises a continuous defect part.
- Group III, claim(s) 19-23, drawn to a dispersion compensation system for an optical pulse propagated via an optical pulse transmission line comprising an optical pulse pickup unit.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I to III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The "special technical feature" of claims 1-10 is considered to be differentiating the carrier density between the dispersion varying means and the waveguide. The "special technical feature" of claims 11-18 is considered to be an optical crystal having a continuous defect part formed in a periodic arrangement layer. The "special technical feature" of claims 19-23 is considered to be the use of an optical pulse pickup unit in combination with a dispersion compensation unit. These inventions are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept, because there is no technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding technical features.

3. During a telephone conversation with Howard Bernstein on January 24, 2007 a provisional election was made WITHOUT traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-10. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 11-23 withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Priority

5. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

6. The listing of references in the Search Report is not considered to be an information disclosure statement (IDS) complying with 37 CFR 1.98. 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) requires a legible copy of: (1) each foreign patent; (2) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (3) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion, unless the cited pending U.S. application is stored in the Image File Wrapper (IFW) system; and (4) all other information, or that portion which caused it to be listed. In addition, each IDS must include a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office (see 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1) and (b)), and MPEP § 609.04(a), subsection I. states, "the list ... must be submitted on a separate paper." Therefore, the references cited in the Search Report have not been considered. Applicant is advised that the date of submission of any item of information or any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the

requirements based on the time of filing the IDS, including all "statement" requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a).

Specification

7. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9. **Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Patent No. US 6,731,846 to Hosomi et al. ("Hosomi").**

In re claim 1, the specified limitations are clearly shown in Figure 11 and/or Figure 16 of the Hosomi patent. See columns 8-9 for further details.

10. **Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Patent No. 5,570,439 to Ido et al. ("Ido").**

In re claim 10, the specified limitations are clearly shown in Figure 1 and/or Figure 4 of the Ido patent. See columns 3-5 for further details.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

13. **Claims 2-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosomi as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Patent No. 6,931,189 B2 to Lee et al. ("Lee").**

In re claim 2, the device of Hosomi comprises a photonic crystal (i.e. two materials having different dielectric constants alternately and periodically arranged).

In re claim 7, Hosomi also shows an energy supplier 105/106 as recited by claim 7.

Thus, Hosomi only differs from claims 2 and 7 in that Hosomi does not disclose "a plurality of regions different in combination of the size and the interval of one said material existing in the other said material are arranged along a direction in which said waveguide continues". Lee, on the other hand, shows in Figure 6, a plurality of regions 22-24 different in combination of the size and the interval of one said material existing in the other said material are arranged along a direction in which said waveguide continues as reference numerals. The motivation for combining Lee with Hosomi is to reduce coupling losses when coupling together different types of waveguide structures (i.e., an optical fiber connected to a photonic crystal structure). See Lee's Abstract. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the claimed invention to obtain the invention specified by claims 2 and 7 in view of Hosomi combined with Lee.

In re claims 3-6, the recited limitations are considered to be functional in nature and do not describe any additional device structure. Because, Hosomi in view of Lee discloses all the positively recited structural features of claims 1 and 2, the functional limitations of claims 3-6 are considered inherently present in view of Hosomi combined with Lee.

14. Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosomi in view of Lee as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Ido.

In re claims 8 and 9, the previous remarks are incorporated herein. Hosomi in view of Lee only differs from claims 8 and 9 in that neither patent discloses changing the refractive index of at least part of the waveguide by changing the carrier density using a voltage supplied to the

column 4, lines 7-11. The motivation for combining Ido with Hosomi in view of Lee is to adjust the wavelength of the light to be dispersion compensated. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the claimed invention to obtain the invention specified by claims 8 and 9 in view of Hosomi combined with Lee and further in view of Ido.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Rojas whose telephone number is (571) 272-2357. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (12:00PM-8:00PM).

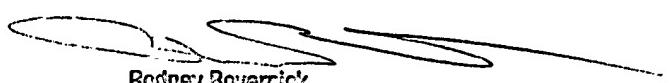
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rod Bovernick, can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The official facsimile number for regular and After Final communications is (571) 273-8300. The examiner's RightFAX number is (571) 273-2357.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Omar Rojas
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2874

or
January 30, 2007



Rodney Bovernick
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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